
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO CONSIDER INTRASTATE AIR TRAVEL IN HAWAII AS A SPECIAL CASE AND TO PASS LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING HAWAII TO REGULATE INTRASTATE AIR TRAVEL.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii is an island chain with its
2 counties separated by many miles of open ocean, making residents
3 of and visitors to the State of Hawaii critically and uniquely
4 dependent upon air transportation as the only efficient way to
5 travel between islands; and

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7 WHEREAS, many residents commute daily between the islands
8 by air and are thus highly dependent upon access to convenient,
9 reliable, safe, and affordable air transportation services; and

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11 WHEREAS, residents often also must fly inter-island for
12 health care, family emergencies, and other urgent reasons, often
13 without time to plan in advance for these trips; and

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15 WHEREAS, residents of Hawaii require air travel services
16 that are flexible and able to accommodate the need to make
17 travel plans on short notice when emergencies arise; and

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19 WHEREAS, intrastate air travel is the only viable mode of
20 transportation between the State's counties for most residents,
21 unlike in other states where public roads and highways provide a
22 means of connection; and

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24 WHEREAS, there is limited competition for intrastate air
25 transportation services, which creates a monopolistic market
26 that manipulates fee structures, flight schedules, and standards
27 of service; and

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29 WHEREAS, currently, rates are high and routes are limited,
30 which causes flights to sell out frequently; and



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1 WHEREAS, intrastate air travel in Hawaii was previously
 2 regulated by the State, until preempted by the 1978 Airline
 3 Deregulation Act; and
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5 WHEREAS, under current regulations, Hawaii's intrastate
 6 flights are considered federally-regulated interstate travel
 7 even though they occur fully within the State; and
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9 WHEREAS, the State has no control over the routes and rates
 10 established by the Federal Aviation Administration or the
 11 effects that these measures have on the unique intrastate air
 12 transport needs of Hawaii residents and visitors; and
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14 WHEREAS, the State can only regulate its intrastate air
 15 travel through the enactment of federal legislation recognizing
 16 Hawaii as a special case, which is how intrastate air travel is
 17 currently regulated in Alaska; now, therefore,
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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 20 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
 21 2019, the Senate concurring, that Congress is urged to consider
 22 intrastate air travel in Hawaii as a special case and to pass
 23 legislation authorizing Hawaii to regulate intrastate air
 24 travel; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
 28 United States, Majority Leader of the United States Senate,
 29 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and
 30 Hawaii's Congressional Delegation.
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OFFERED BY: SCOTT RUM

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